

Docket: 14035

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor:	Rudolf Ehwald	
Appln. No.:	Unknown	
Filed:	Herewith	Examiner: Unknown
Title:	Micro-Dialysis Probe	Group Art Unit: Unknown

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C.
20231

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Dear Sir:

Signature: *Jim Barr*

Prior to examination of the above-identified patent application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

After the title please inset the following paragraph:

Priority Claim

This application is a continuation of International Application No. PCT/CH00/00389, filed on July 18, 2000, which claims priority to German Application No.199 37 099 C2, filed on August 6, 1999, both of which are herein incorporated by reference.

In the section entitled "Technical Field", please delete the originally filed sentence and substitute the following:

The present invention relates to micro-dialysis probes and, more particularly, to a micro-dialysis probe including a supply line and a drainage line for a dip-feed solution and a dialysis section, wherein the flow channel for the dip-feed solution experiences an inversion in the area of the dialysis solution between the supply line and drainage line.

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel originally filed claims 1-10.

Please enter new claims 11-27 as follows:

11. (New) A micro-dialysis probe which includes a supply line and a drainage line for a drip-feed solution and a dialysis section, wherein the flow channel for the drip-feed solution experiences an inversion in the area of the dialysis section between the supply line and the drainage line, wherein both said supply line and said drainage line are arranged as separate hollow channels on the outer wall of said probe, side by side, in parallel.
12. (New) The micro-dialysis probe as set forth in claim 11, wherein said supply line and said drainage line have a substantially linear course.
13. (New) The micro-dialysis probe as set forth in claim 11, wherein a first section of said drainage line in the direction of the flow consists of a dialysis hollow fibre penetrating into said supply line behind said inversion, said hollow fibre being fastened in the area of the sealed tip of said probe such that a linear course of flow is achieved after said inversion, while at its other end it is sealed into a second stable tube of the drainage line.
14. (New) The micro-dialysis probe as set forth in claim 13, wherein the part of said tube in the area of said tip of said probe which lies over said hollow fibre forms a supporting section.
15. (New) The micro-dialysis probe as set forth in claim 13, wherein said hollow fibre is formed to be replaceable and is sealed in said tube, in particular in said supporting section which comprises recesses via which said hollow fibre is exposed outwards.
16. (New) The micro-dialysis probe as set forth in claim 11, wherein the flow channel for said drip-feed solution consists of a hollow fibre with a supporting profile, which separates

said supply line and said drainage line from each other, said supporting profile comprising overflow openings in the area of flow inversion.

17. (New) The micro-dialysis probe as set forth in claim 16, wherein said hollow fibre, at the supply line end and drainage line end of said probe is sealed into a probe shaft which accommodates and continues said supply line and said drainage line separately.
18. (New) The micro-dialysis probe as set forth in claim 16, wherein said profile is star-shaped.
19. (New) The micro-dialysis probe as set forth in claim 16, wherein said profile is star-shaped, as one of a three-armed star and a four-armed star.
20. (New) The micro-dialysis probe as set forth in claim 16, wherein said profile flat.
21. (New) The micro-dialysis probe as set forth in claim 20, wherein said profile comprises bristles or knobs on at least one of its flat sides to support said hollow fibre.
22. (New) The micro-dialysis probe as set forth in claim 21, wherein said supply line and said drainage line have a substantially linear course.
23. (New) A micro-dialysis probe comprising a supply line and a drainage line for providing a flow channel for a drip-feed solution, wherein said supply line and said drainage line are arranged as separate, generally side by side and parallel hollow channels on a wall of said probe.
24. (New) The micro-dialysis probe as set forth in claim 23, further comprising a dialysis section, wherein the flow channel for the drip-feed solution experiences an inversion in the area of the dialysis section between the supply line and the drainage line.

25. (New) The micro-dialysis probe as set forth in claim 23, wherein said supply line and said drainage line have a substantially linear course.
26. (New) A micro-dialysis probe comprising a flow channel for a solution, said flow channel comprising a hollow fibre, a supply line and a drainage line, wherein the supply line and drainage line are separated by the hollow fibre, and wherein the drainage line, supply line and hollow fibre form a part of an outer wall of the probe.
27. (New) The micro-dialysis probe of claim 26, wherein the supply line and drainage line are integrated by a fixing material.

REMARKS

The above amendments are being made to clarify the priority claim and to conform the application to U.S. practice.

The added claims do not generate any fees for claims in addition to those covered by the basic filing fee. However, the Office is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account 04-1420.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Marked-up Version Showing Changes.**"

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if doing so will assist in the examination of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP

Date: Feb 5, 2002

By: David E. Bruhn
David E. Bruhn (Reg. No. 36,762)
Suite 1500
50 South Sixth Street
Minneapolis, MN 55402-1498
(612) 340-6317

MARKED-UP VERSION SHOWING CHANGES**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

After the title please inset the following paragraph:

Priority Claim

This application is a continuation of International Application No. PCT/CH00/00389, filed on July 18, 2000, which claims priority to German Application No.199 37 099 C2, filed on August 6, 1999, both of which are herein incorporated by reference.

In the section entitled "Technical Field", please delete the originally filed sentence and substitute the following:

[The present invention relates to a micro-dialysis probe in accordance with the preamble in claim 1.]

The present invention relates to micro-dialysis probes and, more particularly, to a micro-dialysis probe including a supply line and a drainage line for a dip-feed solution and a dialysis section, wherein the flow channel for the dip-feed solution experiences an inversion in the area of the dialysis solution between the supply line and drainage line.

IN THE CLAIMS

11. (New) A micro-dialysis probe which includes a supply line and a drainage line for a drip-feed solution and a dialysis section, wherein the flow channel for the drip-feed solution experiences an inversion in the area of the dialysis section between the supply line and the drainage line, wherein both said supply line and said drainage line are arranged as separate hollow channels on the outer wall of said probe, side by side, in parallel.
12. (New) The micro-dialysis probe as set forth in claim 11, wherein said supply line and said drainage line have a substantially linear course.